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HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MARCH 18 1921.

日九初月二酉辛亥歲年十國民華中

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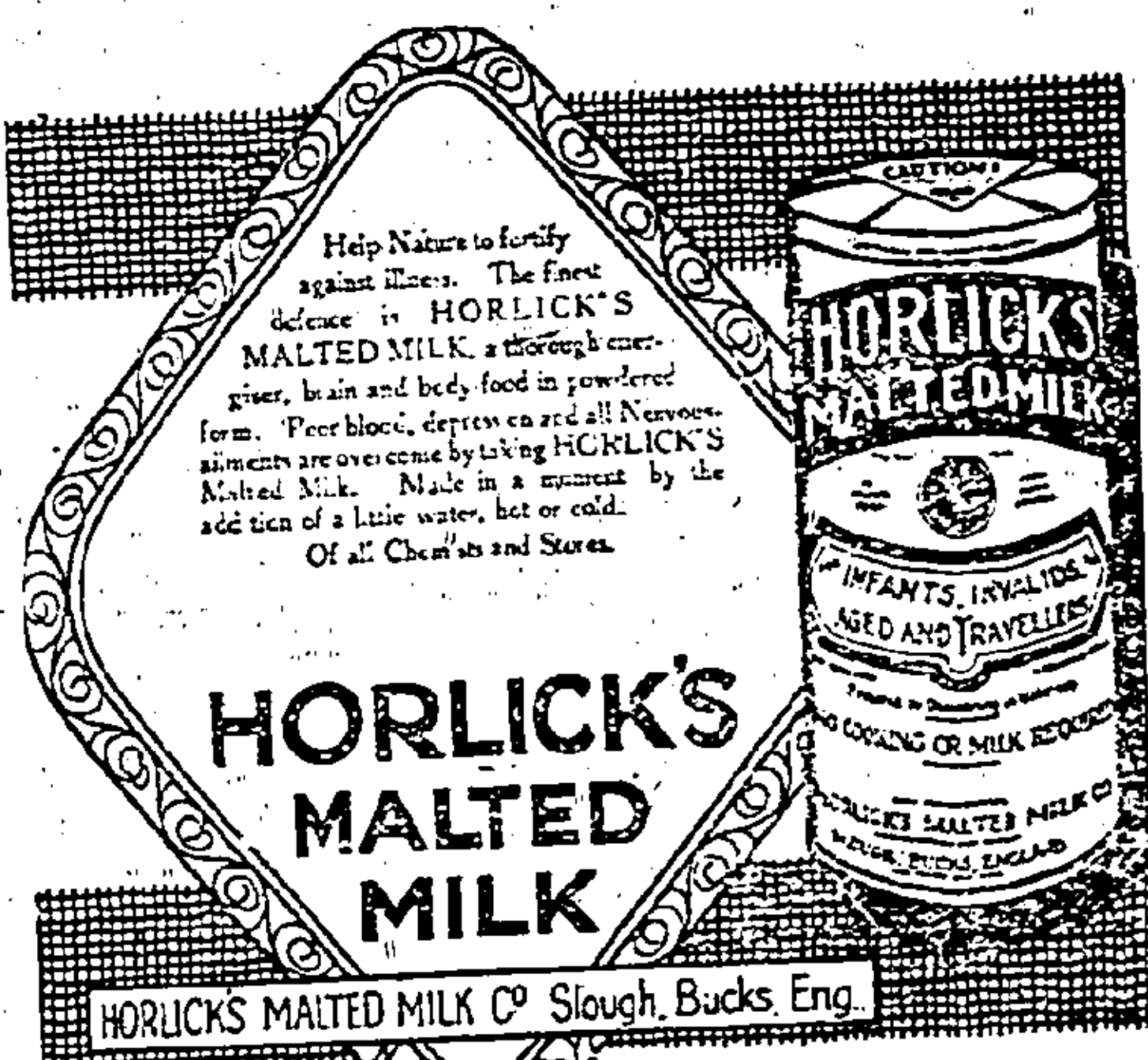
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YOUR BIRTHDAY

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if it is commemorated by a souvenir such as
JEWELLERY & WATCHES
The goods that hold the unchallenged
reputation of being
THE IDEAL GIFT.

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TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Reader's Service to the China Mail.)

BONAR LAW RESIGNS.

TORY LEADER NOT WELL.

LONDON, March 17.

In the House of Commons Lloyd George announced that Bonar Law had resigned on grounds of health. This announcement was a "Bombshell." Lloyd George was visibly affected when reading Bonar Law's letter, frequently breaking down. He was hardly able to finish his statement. In the letter Bonar Law said: "The strain of the last few years has pressed most heavily on me. As you know, I had the greatest difficulty in doing my work and am now worn out. My medical advisers have warned me that my physical condition is such that unless I have an immediate and long rest an early and complete breakdown is inevitable. (Murmurs of dismay.) It will always be a pleasure to me to think I have been able to help you in the great work you have done since you became prime minister, and it is necessary that compels me to abandon the hope of assisting you in the difficult task now confronting you."

The Commons cheered sympathetically when Lloyd George broke down. Finishing the letter he added that he hoped a short rest would enable Bonar Law to return to his duties but the medical opinion was that Bonar Law would need a prolonged rest and freedom from worry. Here Lloyd George was unable to master his feelings and flung himself back into his seat with a gesture indicating his inability to continue.

Asquith thereupon rose and almost inaudibly referred to the unexpected and painful announcement. He said all his relations with Bonar Law had never left rancour. Bonar Law's political antagonists entertained the most affectionate memories of him. He hoped for his complete restoration to health and his re-entry into the fighting ranks.

Clynes said the Labourites had received the news with a feeling of deepest loss.

It is understood to-night that the Coalition will be unaffected by Bonar Law's resignation. The Unionists are meeting on Monday to elect his successor. Austin Chamberlain is freely mentioned as his probable successor.

CONFERENCE OF DOMINION PREMIERS.

ARRANGEMENTS.

LONDON, March 17.

The agenda for the conference of dominions premiers is now being drawn up but is unlikely to be completed for some weeks. The British Government is sending out to the dominions papers relative to the questions it desires discussed and is asking the dominions respectively to send in data regarding the subjects they propose to place on the agenda. It is practically certain that the naval, military, and air defence of the empire will form the main theme of discussions, while arrangements for a meeting of the empire constitutional conference will also figure prominently. It is hoped that a further considerable advance will be made in the imperial wireless system. The anticipated report of the Milner commission on wireless will be ready for the conference, enabling the dominions premiers to see how far stations have developed and submit their views.

BIG NEW YORK FIRM SMASHES.

RECEIVERS APPOINTED.

NEW YORK, March 17.

Receivers have been appointed to take over the business of Messrs. Gaston Williams and Wigmore, exporters and importers, whose liabilities are estimated at six million dollars. The assets consist of stock in subsidiary companies all over the world. It is understood the company's financial embarrassment is due to depreciation of its stock holdings, also to heavy losses owing to the Soviet Government repudiating claims for supplies to the imperial and Kerensky governments.

THE QUALITY OF MERCY.

NEW U.S. PRESIDENT AND MR. DEBS.

WASHINGTON, March 17.

President Harding has requested the attorney-general to review the case of the socialist leader Debs, who was imprisoned for obstructing recruiting during the war.

MARINE WAGES.

LIVERPOOL OWNERS PROPOSE REDUCTIONS.

LONDON, March 17.

Liverpool shipowners have submitted to the national maritime board a definite scheme for reduction of wages and the revision of working conditions for all ratings, the decrease ranging from ninety shillings monthly from officers, seamen, and firemen to £5 10s. in the case of stewards.

RUSSIAN REVOLUTION.

REFUGEES REACH FINLAND.

HELSINKI, March 18.

The revolutionary committee with eight hundred soldiers have arrived in Finland. It is stated that Kronstadt has surrendered.

THE VERY LATEST.

SCIENTIFIC EXECUTIONS.

RENO, March 17.

The Nevada senate has passed a bill providing for the use of lethal gas for capital punishment.

INDIAN VICEROY ENDS.

LONDON, March 17.

Lord Reading has left for India to take up the viceroyalty.

THE DOLLAR.

To-day's closing rate 2/3 7/8
To-day's opening rate 2/3 7/8

EARLIER TELEGRAMS

(Reader's Service to the China Mail.)

GREAT BRITAIN'S NAVY.

LONDON, March 17th.

A striking announcement regarding the naval armaments question was made by Lord Lee, the First Lord of the Admiralty, at the dinner of the Institute of Naval Architects, where he said that if an invitation came from Washington he would be prepared to put aside all other business in order to help towards an agreement for mutual reduction, which was the most pressing matter in the world's affairs. Lord Lee declared that the difference between the American and the British formula regarding the strength of their respective navies was too slight to be made the subject of controversy. He asserted that if ever war broke out between us and any of the ex-allies, it would be the fault of blind or criminal leadership for which statesmen, whether in London, Washington or Tokyo, or any other capital, would be execrated in history, if they failed to avert such a tragedy.

Lord Lee said that the new British Navy Estimates set an example in reduction. "We have taken risks," Lord Lee said, "as regards the relative position of our navy and the navies of other countries. We are prepared to go to the farthest possible limit by mutual agreement, but it was not sufficient merely to talk of 'hands across the sea.' We must, also, have heads across the sea."

Lord Lee said that from long knowledge of America he profoundly believed in business talking leading up to a square deal. "We were not engaged," concluded Lord Lee, "in a game of poker or bluff; the cards could be placed on the table."

BRITISH REPARATIONS BILL.

LONDON, March 17th.

The Reparations Bill has passed the Committee stage in the House of Commons.

BERLIN, March 17th.

It is semi-officially denied by the Government that production has been reduced in the Stinnes Thyssen works in the newly occupied districts. No workmen have been dismissed.

TRADE WITH RUSSIA.

LONDON, March 17th.

After the signature of the Anglo-Russian Trade Agreement, Sir Robert Horne addressed a letter to Mr. Krassin giving details of British activity against Russia, and stating that this must immediately be ended, if the good faith of the trade agreement is to be observed.

LONDON, March 17th.

The conclusion of the Anglo-Russian Trade Agreement is in no way hailed with universal satisfaction.

The Daily Herald alone is jubilant, and claims that the agreement is a great Labour triumph.

Other comments range from strong denunciation to cold gratification. A point of immediate concern is whether the gold and other commodities from Russia are attachable.

M. Krassin declares that a test action will be brought in the courts as soon as possible, and if the verdict is in favour of the Soviet Government trade will be opened immediately, but if it is against the Soviet the agreement would become useless, unless the British Government obtains a revision of the decision.

The signature of the Anglo-Russian Trade Agreement was speedily followed by a Moscow wireless message announcing that a contract for a big order had been signed in London for the purchase of 300,000 tons of coal.

WORLD'S CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP.

HAVANA, March 17th.

The first game between Lasker and Capablanca, in the world's chess championship, resulted in a draw, after fifty moves.

PRESIDENT MILLERAND.

PARIS, March 15th.

M. Millerand has concluded his visit to the Lyons Fair, and to the industrial district where the working population gave him the warmest welcome. The President is to proceed to-morrow on his journey to Valence and Avignon.—Havas.

NEW SINO-BELGIAN STEAMSHIP LINE.

BRUSSELS, March 17th.

A new Sino-Belgian navigation company has been established by the Belgian Royal Lloyd. It has four steamers under construction. It is intended to run a regular service to Shanghai from Antwerp, Rotterdam and Hamburg.

A FAMILY NECESSITY.

EVERY family should be provided with Chamberlain's Pain Balm at all times. Sprains may be cured in much less time when promptly treated. Lame back, lame shoulder pains in the side and chest and rheumatic pains are some of the diseases for which it is especially valuable. Try this household and become acquainted with its qualities and you will never wish to be without it. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

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This week's Price \$19.50

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33 Bolts Birkmyres Patent Tarpsaulin

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TOSE (Milk Sugar) for sweetening the
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MILFORD-MORATH FLUID INSECTI-
CIDE the Best Fluid for destroying
Flies, Mosquitoes, Bugs, etc. and all
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(4) JOHN CAHILL'S GOLDEN
FLEECES, MAGIO and CINDERELLA
SOAPS for keeping everything clean in
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TELETYPE, JUSTICE, PUBLIC SERVICE.
HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 1921.

OUR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The report of the general committee of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, to be presented to members on the 29th of this month, is already printed. It makes a book of 256 pages, and although there is no "plot," there is continuity of interest. As a skeleton of Hongkong's business concerns throughout a twelve-month, it is well articulated, and produces, despite its variety of themes, a monomorphous effect upon the mind. It consists entirely of correspondence, but all the correspondence of these various firms and men betrays a coherent purpose, the facilitation and furtherance of British trade. The reader may have to consult a dictionary to ascertain what quassia is, he may be misty as to the nature of a bill of lading, and absolutely ignorant concerning the short reeled cotton cases, but he can see quite plainly an earnest and a related purpose in any of these arguments about these differing things. It breeds a new respect for the brains that do understand these arcane matters. These money-grubbers (as he may have called them, in his superior way) now figure as devoted coral insects, building the reef of empire, with something like the same unconsciousness and the same achievement. They begin (appendix A) with an interest in education, they pass on to touch as they pass subjects like trade with Germany, the state of Vancouver Harbour, U.K. import restrictions, lace, camphor analyses, and so on. Incidentally, the unbusiness reader perceives the element of human

interest, of psychology, in the correspondence about Vancouver Harbour. These men not only reason; they have emotions, feelings, even as you or I. Our Colonial Secretary, in the discharge of his duty, had been obliged to write to the Vancouver Harbour Commissioners criticisms that must have touched their amour propre. The Canadian Trade Commissioner at Yokohama, a gentleman called Bryan, joins in. He is all lecturing these Vancouver authorities as if they were boys, and presently we find them squirming, in a letter written by the Foreign Freight Agent of the C.P.R. But no squirming is not the right word. There is virtuous resentment of ill-founded charges. Vancouver Harbour is all right. It is, to say the least, a better port than "those to the south of us." And so on. We think of how our own Harbour Master might try to answer charges that we are not properly equipped and up-to-date, and our sympathy goes out to the Vancouver champion. There is a lot about imperial preference, which we hasten by, remembering some controversies bygone. It is followed, appropriately enough, by storm signals, in the new code of which, very naturally, our merchants are interested. They are sturdy types, la-very John Bullish, and do not hesitate to offer a blunt opinion on a delicate matter that would make the wisest of philosophers hum and ha. For instance, The British Association for the Advancement of Science decides that commerce needs an international auxiliary language, for use by the Allies in trading, and asks the Chamber to say what language should be recommended. They are obviously thinking of some artificial, some a priori language, but the Chamber is above Esperanto and such nonsense. It is "of the opinion that English is the only language adaptable for the purpose." As Britons we lustily applaud; as scientists, we conceal the furtive smile that

this answer evokes. The idea of English being recommended as an "auxiliary" language for Englishmen amuses us, and we determine to treasure it against the time when we are helping to entertain the delegation of business men from the Vancouver Board of Trade, who, we conclude, are coming on the "Empress of Russia" next May. Then, reading on, we discover that their visit is history, that all these things refer to a year that has gone. Whereupon, having filled about as much space as is required, we chuck the book to one side, and take up another. Seriously, there ought to be a chapter about the Chamber's programme and outlook for the coming year. This, no doubt, we will get from the meeting on the 29th. Let us wait for that.

CHINESE PRINTERS STRIKE.

DEMAND FOR 8-HOUR DAY.

Work in all the Chinese printing shops in Hongkong came to a standstill this morning when the employees went on strike to enforce their demand for an 8-hour day instead of the 11-hour day hitherto worked. After the men had been out two hours twenty shops agreed to give an 8-hour day, a whole day off on Sunday, and overtime at double rates. Over 40 shops, however, still refuse to meet the demands of their employees.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Returning from Hongkong to H.M.S. "Carlisle" at Kowloon Docks last night, a pantry boy was attacked by two men who suddenly appeared at a dark spot in Yau-mati and robbed him of \$50 in notes.

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending March 5, 1921, amounted to 78,532 tons and the sales during the period, to 83,321 tons.

It is understood that the Astor House Hotel property, has been sold, for, it is stated, \$480,000, to Chinese, who intend to rebuild. However, the hotel lease has a few years still to run.

The Kobe Steel Works, which is under the management of Messrs Suzuki & Co., has announced some further retrenchment, and dismissed 110 hands out of 180 employed in the boiler department. The men discharged were given consolation allowances representing from 25 days' to 85 days' pay, and in some cases travelling expenses were also given. There was no disorderly conduct on the part of the dismissed men.

For the convenience of those attending the forthcoming tournament of the Hongkong Boxing Association who may wish to leave before the end, it has been decided by the management to hold the main event—the Championship contest between "Sky" Kerrison and Seaman Codlings—immediately after the interval, instead of at the end of the tournament as has hitherto been the custom. This arrangement will no doubt be appreciated by many.

The court of first instance in Manila was "stumped" recently when it had to decide what penalty to give a murderer who had already been sentenced to life imprisonment for another offence. As the death penalty in the Philippines is limited, the court was at a loss when the prisoner, who killed a fellow convict with a pickaxe, was brought before it. Eventually the judge hit on the happy solution of giving him two life sentences. The prisoner says he will "take his chances" on the second one.

It has been discovered that there is a wireless phenomenon covering a large area round about Mincio and wireless signals seem to die away at this point. Mr. M. J. Gollyghly, the officer-in-charge of the Colombo Wireless Station, has circulated shipper's so as to obtain as much information as possible from ships, which experienced the effects of the blank area. About six ships, including the "Ormonde," have observed the phenomenon. Mr. Gollyghly is investigating the matter, but is not in a position to make a definite statement.

A new law reserving to struggling artists and authors a percentage of what their work may fetch at subsequent public sales has been drafted, our Brussels correspondent states, by M. Desreux, the Socialist Minister of Arts and Sciences in the Belgian Government, says the *Daily Mail*. If M. Desreux's idea had been carried out earlier the closing days of many famous artists might have been less clouded with care. Several of the greatest painters, "The White Horse" for one—sold for no more than 100 guineas, and he was constantly "hard up." Morland's plight was even worse. Jean Francois Millet, who died a poor man, did not live to see his "Angelus" sell for £32,000.

COMPANY MEETING.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING
CO., LTD.

A RECORD YEAR.

The 43rd annual general meeting of the China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., was held at the offices of the general agents, Messrs. Jardine Matheson and Co., Ltd., at 11 a.m. this morning. The Hon. Mr. Johnstone presided and there were present—Sir Paul Chater, Mr. A. O. Lang, Mr. F. Maitland, and Mr. H. P. White (Consulting Committee) and C. B. C. Hornell, Secretary, G. M. Shaw Manager; Sir Robert Ho Tung, Messrs. Ho Kwong, U. Rungjahn, Ho Shai Kit, Hon. Mr. Ho Fook, Lo Chuen-shin, Messrs. M. E. Lo, O. Kitchell, Ho Leung, E. Abraham, Chao Posen, P. Tester, W. J. Carroll, N. V. A. Croucher, F. M. P. de Gracia, Ho Kil, Lo Cheung Ip, S. E. de Luz, G. C. Moon, Y. M. da Rocha, P. M. N. da Silva and Yuen Hang Kin.

The Secretary having read the notice calling the meeting, the Chairman said—

The Report and Accounts with the Auditors Certificate attached having been in your hands for the past week or so, I will with your permission take them as read.

The year under review has been an unusually difficult one in which it has been possible to make or lose millions inside of a week, and it is with considerable pleasure—coupled with relief—that your General Agents and Consulting Committee find themselves in the position to present to you such a satisfactory report, and to recommend the payment of a final dividend of \$65 per share, which, with the Interim Dividend of \$15 paid in August last, makes a return of \$80 per share to shareholders for the past year.

Last year's working easily constitutes a record in the history of the Company, and this—under the extraordinary circumstances we had to contend with during 1920—gives all the more reason for congratulation.

It will be remembered that towards the middle of the year under review the discovery that America was "Short" forced prices up to unheard of levels. Raws, in Java, rising from 40 to 75 Guilders per picul between April and May, thereafter when America had reversed her position, that is to say gone "long," the bubble burst and prices fell away equally rapidly, the actual difference between the highest and lowest prices touched during the year being approximately 80 Guilders per picul.

Fortunately for us judicious buying at the end of 1919 for delivery 1920, coupled with heavy purchases quite early in the year 1920, itself enabled the Refinery to carry on without placing further orders of Raws at inflated prices and to take full advantage of the demand for the finished product, which was experienced throughout the year.

Shareholders in this Company hardly need to be reminded of the risks attendant on Sugar Refining as a business, because they have already had painful experience thereof in years when we could not pay a dividend commensurate with the value of their Shares, and I trust therefore that you will assist us to build up the reserves of the Company out of a good year, and thus protect yourselves as far as possible against the lean ones which are in due course bound to follow.

To briefly comment upon the proposed allocation of the profits, we think it advisable to increase the "Sugar Fluctuation a/c" to \$1,200,000—to offset possible fluctuations in the future.

The allocation of a further three lakhs to "Equalization of Dividend Fund" will enable us at the worst to pay a 10% dividend on our Shares for 3 years to come.

As you are aware, we have an Employees Provident Fund in connection with the Staff, and you are to agree to putting aside \$100,000—to invest against calls on this Fund in the future.

We are building a block of 12 Flats at East Point on our own property to house our technical Staff and we think this is a good time to provide for the cost of the building, viz. \$140,000.

The amount of \$30,960—which we propose to pay as Bonus to Staff is larger than hitherto but this is well earned during the year and we feel sure that you will agree to the additional grant in view of the results obtained.

It is also proposed to write down Patent Rights by \$50,000, as these Rights benefit us over a limited period of years and the proposal thus appears advisable.

There is only one other item in the accounts to which I think reference need be made. You will notice that the amount standing at credit of "Exchange Fluctuation a/c" is increased by \$140,876.52. This amount represents the book profit on Guilders on deposit in Java which are taken into the accounts at the rate ruling on the 31st December. The amount will be credited to Raw Sugar shipments as soon as the Guilders concerned are used to finance purchases made for shipment this year. The amount, actually standing at the credit of this Reserve is \$100,000—as shown in the last accounts.

WRONGFUL ARREST.

APOLOGY DUE TO RICHHA
COOLIE.

Great was the astonishment and dismay of a luckless richha coolie wandering past the City Hall shortly before the witching hour last night when his empty vehicle chanced to disturb the delicate poised of a fire hydrant kept in readiness during the cabaret dance and release a geyser of water which shot high into the air, overturning his vehicle and drenching his scanty habiliments. Scarcely had he recovered his surprise, than to his further consternation, he was seized by a myrmidon of the law and marched to the police station. What ingenious regulation was eventually discovered to justify his arrest is not known, but it was fully half an hour before the powerful jet foaming higher than the City Hall itself was finally stopped by a man who boldly marched in where others feared to tread and literally leant against the stream the while he fumbled with the hydrant. As an imitation of an artesian well the fountain was thrilling while it lasted. But the waste was shocking.

I now come to the prospects for 1921, and it gives much pleasure to be able to tell you that—always provided some unlooked for catastrophe does not take place—we appear to be fairly safe.

A considerable portion of our requirements of Raw Sugar for the present year have been already bought at cheap prices and sales so far made have been satisfactory.

There does not appear to be any outstanding factor likely to cause violent fluctuation in prices and any fluctuation that may come should be in our favour.

The Chairman—I now propose that the Report and Accounts as presented be adopted and that the balance at credit of Profit and Loss account be distributed as follows—

(1) The payment of a final dividend of \$65 per share absorbing \$1,300,000.

(2) Place to Sugar Fluctuation account \$700,000.

(3) Place to Equalization of Dividend Fund \$300,000.

(4) Place to Employees Provident Fund \$100,000.

(5) Place to Building Reserve \$140,000.

(6) Writeoff Patent Rights \$50,000.

(7) Pay to the Staff as Bonus \$30,960.

(8) Carry forward to the New Account \$75,781.11.

Mr. U. Rungjahn said: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I have the utmost pleasure in rising to second the adoption of the report and accounts. I shall take this opportunity heartily to congratulate shareholders on the fact that the year under review is a record one. While three years ago the Company had three lakhs in reserve now it has the whole capital less one lakh. The sugar fluctuation account will now stand at \$1,200,000, a wonderful figure, and bearing in mind the dangers of the business a very wise provision. I am glad to note, and I am sure all shareholders will approve of the staff bonus \$30,960, a well deserved tribute to the work performed by the staff. The provision of \$100,000 towards the employees' provident fund is a very prudent step as it will provide for the Company's old employees on their retirement. In conclusion gentlemen, I wish to congratulate the general agents, the committee, and the staff for the remarkable results they have achieved, results which merit the conveyance to them of our very sincere thanks. (Applause.) With these few remarks I beg to second the adoption of the report and accounts as proposed by the Chairman.

The Chairman: If there are no remarks, while thanking Mr. Rungjahn for the flattering remarks he has made about ourselves and the consulting committee, I shall put the motion to the meeting. Will those in favour kindly vote in the usual manner? Against? Carried unanimously. The next business is the election of the consulting committee. Mr. G. Tester: I beg to propose that Hon. Sir Paul Chater, Messrs. F. Maitland, A. O. Lang, and H. P. White be re-elected as members of the Consulting Committee.

Sir Robert Ho Tung: I have pleasure in seconding the proposal. Carried unanimously. The Chairman: The next business before the meeting is the election of Auditors for the current year. In this connection I would remark that Messrs. H. Percy Smith and A. R. Lowe who offer themselves for reelection have requested that their annual remuneration be increased from \$500 to \$750 each per annum. As this request appears to me to be a reasonable one, I trust you will agree to the proposal which will now be put before you.

Mr. N. V. A. Croucher: I beg to propose that Messrs. H. Percy Smith & Co. A. and A. R. Lowe & Co. A. be re-appointed auditors of the Company for the ensuing year at a remuneration of \$750 each.

Mr. Ho Leung: I have pleasure in seconding the proposal. Carried unanimously.

The Chairman: This concludes the business before the meeting. I thank you gentlemen, for your attendance. Dividend warrants may be obtained on application.

EARL HAIG'S FUND.

MRS. E. WOODS' CABARET
DANCE.

A BRILLIANT FUNCTION.

The City Hall was the scene of a brilliant function last night when the cabaret dance organised by Mrs. Harry Woods and her twin daughters, Misses Aileen and Doris, in aid of Earl Haig's fund for ex-Service men, met with a success as splendid as it was deserving. Thanks to the unremitting zeal and energy of its capable organisers and the assistance of the local residents and firms whose generosity should help greatly to keep expenses to the bare minimum, a substantial contribution should be made to a fund so manifestly worthy of the widest support. The knowledge of this added not a little lustre to the keen enjoyment of the dance itself.

The City Hall was a scene of great animation, the simple but tasteful decorations of ferns, plants, and flags, artistically arranged in the dancing rooms and corridors alike, forming a pretty contrast with the dresses of the ladies and uniforms of the naval and military guests present. The St. George's and St. Andrew's Halls were devoted to the dancing and the Chamber of Commerce Room to the refreshment tables, while the balconies as usual were used for sitting out. There was also a reception room and a bar.

Among the large number present—between four and five hundred, the majority of whom were dancing—were many prominent local residents, including H. E. the Governor, Sir Reginald Stubbs, and the General Officer Commanding, H. E. Sir G. M. Kirkpatrick, and the Misses Kirkpatrick, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Gompertz, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Pollock, Mrs. Holyoak, Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, C.S.P., Mr. P. F. G. Wodehouse, C.I.E., D.S.P., and Mr. Burlingham, A.S.P.

Not the least enjoyable portion of the programme was the musical section, in which the prominent part taken by Mrs. Woods herself was characteristically good. Mr. Sims rendered invaluable assistance to Mrs. Woods in the musical department. By the courtesy of Mr. J. H. Taggart, the General Manager, the Hongkong Hotel Orchestra was in attendance. The Chickering Grand Piano used by Mrs. Woods was kindly lent by Messrs. Anderson and Company. Messrs. D. Logan and Harriman acted as Masters of Ceremonies. The dance programme was as follows—

1.—One Step.
2.—Fox Trot.
3.—Waltz.
4.—Fox Trot.
Songs—Misses Aileen and Doris Woods.
5.—Fox Trot.
6.—Waltz—"Dear old Pal of Mine."
7.—One Step.
8.—Fox Trot.
Patriotic Song—"England"
Paul Rubens.

9.—One step—"Swanee."
10.—Waltz.
11.—Fox Trot—"Dance O-Mania."
12.—Fox Trot.
13.—Waltz.
14.—Fox Trot.
15.—Fox Trot—"Mammy's Arms."
16.—One Step.
Extra.
Sung by the Misses Woods.

One of the most enjoyable features of the evening was the singing of the Misses Woods, accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Woods, both in the special intervals reserved in the earlier part of the programme and later during the dancing. Charming interpretations, greatly enhanced by the grace of the singers, who also executed some extremely graceful dances, were given to such popular songs as "Your eyes have told me so," and "In the Spring a young man's thoughts lightly turn to love." For these enjoyable contributions the singers were warmly applauded and had performed to submit encores in each instance. Later in the evening a novelty which scored great success when presented by them in Shanghai and Japan was introduced by the Misses Woods who sang while the dances were in progress the waltz "Dear old pal of mine," the one step "Swanee," and the fox trot "Dance O-Mania," and "Mammy's Arms." For these also the singers received very cordial expressions of appreciation. Equally enjoyable was "Rose of Washington Square" played by Mrs. Woods at the piano, and Paul Rubens' famous patriotic song "England," the chorus of which, as follows, was sung with great enthusiasm by all present—

England to dream of, England to sigh for,
England to live for, to do for, to die for.
Best of all lands under heaven above,
England to love in, and England to love.

Mrs. Woods, who played with her customary ability, was also warmly applauded and had to give more than one encore. A fitting tribute to Mrs. Woods and her daughters, whose splendid work, all the more striking in that it was performed without the aid of a committee, achieved such notable results, was paid at the conclusion of the dance when all present gave three very hearty cheers and they were presented with a wealth of flowers in bouquets and baskets.

DISHONEST MESSENGER.

THEFT OF \$1,000.

STOLEN PROPERTY RECOVERED.

Before Magistrate Lindsay yesterday afternoon, a Chinese gatekeeper employed at the China Sugar Refinery at Wanchai, was charged with having received, knowing the same to be stolen, the sum of \$1,000, the property of Messrs. Getz Brothers.

He pleaded "not guilty." Outlining the case for the prosecution, Mr. K. Lo said that some time ago the proprietors of Messrs. Getz Bros., absconded with a large sum of money and the firm had to engage a temporary staff; one of them was a coolie, the son of the defendant. On February 3, Mr. R. A. May, travelling superintendent of the Company, in the presence of Mr. H. O. Odell, the local manager, handed to the clerk, to be paid into the Bank of East Asia, \$4,500 in \$500 dollar notes, a cheque, and \$28.40 in smaller money. Instead of taking the money himself, the clerk gave it to one of the coolies—the defendant's son—to take to the Bank. The latter was never seen again and the money had not been credited to the firm's account. An hour later, on the same day, the defendant and his son were seen together at the door of their house in East Point. Evidence would also be called to show that the defendant asked a friend to introduce him to a money changer who could bank some money for him. The defendant handed to the money-changer two \$500 notes, and Mr. Lo suggested that the man's possession of such a sum on the very day that his son disappeared with notes of that denomination, though only circumstantial evidence, was, to say the least, suspicious.

After evidence had been called, Mr. Lo said he did not press for a heavy penalty, as the prosecution felt that the defendant was under the influence of his son. The Magistrate sentenced the defendant to four week's imprisonment.

THE LENTEN MISSION.

WEEKEND SPECIAL SERVICES.

The Lenten Mission being conducted at the Roman Catholic Cathedral is still going strong by the Rev. Father Lynch. Every evening the building is crowded. Yesterday, St. Patrick's Day proved no exception, many Kowloon people attending. The number from the Peninsula is such that, as the Rev. Father mentioned, one of the boats which used to be known as the cinema boat is now called the mission boat. The celebrations of St. Joseph's Day in which Bishop Pozzoni officiated, at which Father Lynch preached the panegyric of St. Patrick. To-night special exercises will be made in honour of our Lady of the Seven Dolores. The Way of the Cross will be gone through and at each station the missionary will give a sermonette on the particular passion meditated upon at the station. Father Lynch will reproduce what he witnessed in Jerusalem on a Good Friday in Turkish times when over 1000 people made the Stations of the Cross through the streets of the Holy City. Incidentally he will give a description of the places hallowed by the footprints of the Saviour. Saturday is St. Joseph's Day and Sunday Palm Sunday.

A noteworthy innovation in the arrangement of the orchestra stand was made by Mrs. Woods who had the pot plants removed and the stage raised almost to the level of the balustrade with the result that the orchestra could be heard to the best advantage.

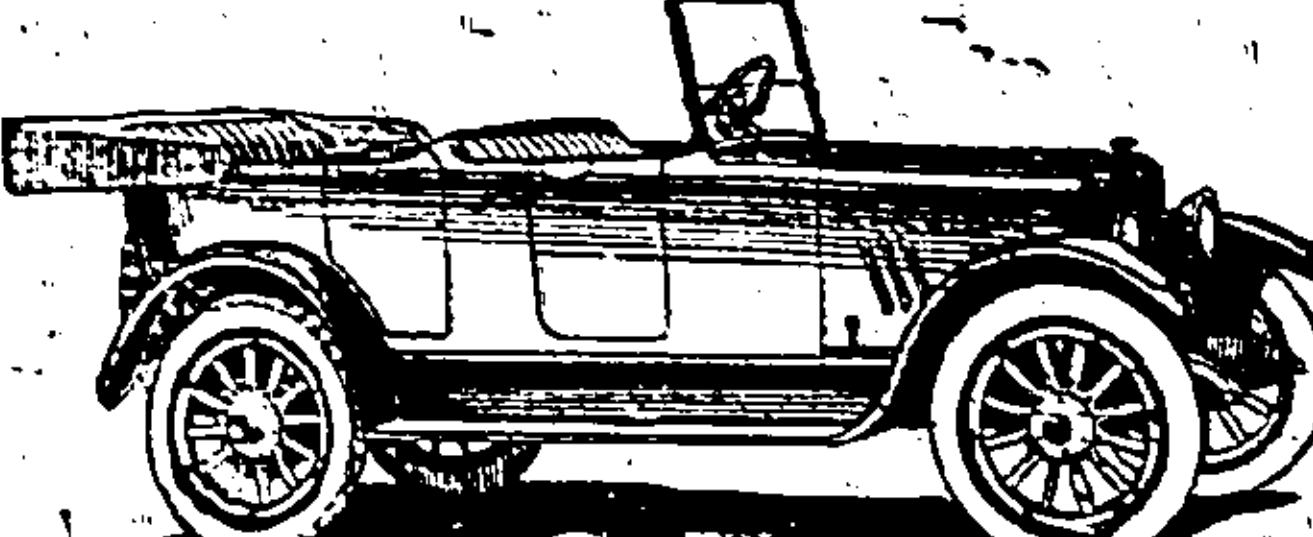
So reluctant was the merry throng to disband that the extra Peak tram which had been scheduled to leave at 1 a.m. did not make the final trip until 2.10 a.m.

In addition to the credit due to Mrs. Woods and the Misses Woods and those already mentioned for the outstanding success of the occasion, mention should also be made of the Naval Authorities who supplied the flags, the Hongkong Electric Company who supplied current free, the Hongkong Hotel Company who gave the services of a small army, under the supervision of Mr. N. White, or the refreshment and bar rooms, the Forestry Department who supplied many beautiful plants and Messrs. Donnelly and White, Calbeck-McGregor, Gande Price, Lane Crawford, the Dairy Farm Co., Wiseman Ltd., Alexandra Cafe, Watson and Co., Humphreys and Co., Komor and Komor, who all made generous contributions of refreshments and liquors, furnishings, etc., also of those who gave individual donations of money, cakes, etc. With the programmes given by Messrs. Kelly and Walsh the Misses Woods realised the splendid sum of over \$300 at the beginning of the dance. Thanks are also due to Staff Sergeant Gillard, G.S.M. Westlake and their helpers at the door and cloak room.

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TO-DAY'S CABLES

(Reader's Service to the China Mail)

BRITISH NAVY ESTIMATES

OLIVE BRANCH TO AMERICA.

LONDON, March 17.

Sir J. Craig (Carson's successor) in introducing the naval estimates to the House of Commons, dwelt on economies effected. He referred to a previous statement that we should never accept equality with any other powers except in connection with the great English speaking nation that had sprung from our loins. He declared that this was the utmost, not perhaps to hold out the olive-branch to America, but nevertheless to shew that we at present were restraining ourselves entirely to the question of maintaining a one-power standard. He mentioned that in the interest of economy the steaming of squadrons at home and abroad would be restricted. Fuel allowances on all stations would be limited. The Admiralty had reluctantly closed down two dockyards. Osborne would be closed. This would be the last year for war liabilities to figure in the estimates. It was proposed to replace four obsolescent ships by vessels of the Hood class; also to build a submarine and minelayer embodying the latest developments. In the view of the naval staff the importance of capital ships was unchanged. If the House sanctioned 2½ millions it would be impossible to get very far in the completion or even the beginning of the four capital ships till the late autumn; but there would be no supplementary estimates.

Replying to Asquith, Sir J. Craig said if the estimates were passed the four ships would be laid down in the next twelve months. He emphasised that aircraft were more dangerous to submarines than to battleships or other surface ships. He instanced the futile bombing of the Goeben. Nevertheless anti-aircraft experiments were in the forefront of naval experiments.

Lt. Col. Archer-Shee moved that owing to the great increase of strength by other powers it was necessary that immediate steps be taken further to increase our capital ships and auxiliary vessels in order to ensure that the navy would at least have equal strength to that of any single power.

Asquith declared that he was not one of the advocates who urged the dispensing with capital ships. He pointed out that our empire, more than any power in the world, was most dependent on seapower. He condemned the prewar formula of a two power standard and urged for a formula of the navy in conjunction with those of the dominions, who were a growing factor in the imperial family. This formula should always be adequate to secure the safety of our sea-girt empire and sea-borne supplies against any reasonably calculable risk. He emphasised that the present was the most favourable opportunity to reduce the ample margin of naval strength held by America and Britain over all other powers, as a fratricidal strife between these two great English speaking peoples was an absolute impossibility.

Carson declared that 1921 was the most critical year the navy had faced in its whole history. It would be the greatest catastrophe to become a second naval power. He was not confident that the estimates even maintained that standard. He pointed out that in 1925 the United States would have eighteen of the most modern capital ships, Japan eleven, and Britain five.

Replying, Craig said that not a single member of the board of admiralty would have signed the estimates unless he was satisfied that they safeguarded imperial interests.

The amendment was negatived without a division.

AUSTRIA DOWN AND OUT.

ALLIES TO HELP HER

LONDON, March 17.

Chamberlain announced in the House of Commons that Britain, France, Italy and Japan had intimated to Austria that they were prepared to postpone the payments due from Austria under the treaty of St. Germain, also the payment of capital and interest on the advances made to Austria since the armistice, in order to avert starvation from Austria. The whole assets of Austria have been hitherto pledged as security for these payments. The above suspensions, however, will release the assets and the League of Nations will determine what fresh gold advances may be made to Austria. Thereupon the four allies had also undertaken at the forthcoming conference at Portofino to help to effect an improvement in the economic conditions at present prejudicing central Europe. Furthermore they will endeavour to assure to Austria a continued and increased supply of coal.

GERMAN IDEAS AND SPEECHES.

BERLIN, March 17.

Scholz, the German minister for economics, addressing the imperial economic council, declared that in view of the Allied penalties German trade must seek fresh channels. He hoped that eastern Europe would be able to absorb German goods. There was foreshadowed in connection therewith an extension of the list of exportable articles, the decontrol of prices, and gradual abolition of export duty. Von Simons in a speech anticipated the resumption of negotiations with the entente. He declared that the work of reconstruction must be placed in the forefront of Germany's counter proposals and a most comprehensive plan formulated for reconstruction of the devastated regions. That meant German labour, which might form security for a loan.

ROCKEFELLER MILLIONS.

HEIR'S LAMENT.

NATION-WIDE COMMENT.

Mr. Rockefeller, junior's statement that he envies Rockefeller, Senior, for only one thing, that "he had to make his own way in the world, and I have never known what that was,"

has occasioned nation-wide comment. The general opinion is that the average man is perfectly willing to accept such a handicap, and also that the son's part in the work of wisely distributing the father's millions is almost as important as the work of accumulation. Rockefeller, Junior, like the majority of American millionaires, still keeps office hours and works harder than most men.

CLAIM AGAINST SHIP.

FURTHER LEGAL ARGUMENT.

JUDGMENT RESERVED.

Judgment was reserved by the Acting Chief Justice, Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz, in the Supreme Court this morning in the case in which Chan Ah Fook, a boatswain, and twelve other members of the crew of the British steamer "Sequoia," claim \$22,000 as wages for wrongful dismissal by the Standard Transportation Company of Hongkong, a subsidiary company of the Standard Oil Company of New York.

The plaintiffs are represented by Mr. C. G. Alabaster, instructed by Mr. W. B. Hind, of Messrs. G. K. Hall, Branton & Co., and the defendants by Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., and Mr. F. C. Jenkin, instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist.

Yesterday afternoon, Mr. Pollock, K.C., addressing the Court on the legal points involved, urged that the articles were the document on which the case had to be decided, and under the articles, on the arrival of the ship in Hongkong, the men had a right to be discharged, and the master had a right to discharge them. Hongkong was the place to which, alone, their wages were paid. Directly the ship arrived here, the wages were "cut off at the tap," and no more wages were due.

Mr. Alabaster, in reply, remarked that the defence had denied that, when a dispute arose over a contract with seamen, the contract must be construed in the sense most beneficial to seamen. He submitted that his contention to the contrary was supported by several leading cases. The Acts did not treat seamen as ordinary men governed by the ordinary principles of contract. The shipowners, finding themselves without a crew in New York, made the contract contained in the letter—a contract inconsistent with the articles because they could not get a crew on the terms of the articles. The captain, in his evidence in New York, admitted that a Japanese crew refused to join the ship, on the articles.

Mr. Alabaster addressing His Honour this morning, said that reference was made by the defendants on Thursday to the fact that this was a form of preliminary agreement to be succeeded by more formal terms to be settled afterwards in a more formal document. That argument, however, interesting it might be from a legal point of view was inconsistent from the proved facts which are to the effect that the words in the formal document had been settled months before the words in the alleged preliminary agreement.

After further legal argument His Honour reserved judgment.

STOLEN BICYCLE.

SCHOOLBOYS IN TROUBLE.

MAGISTRATE ORDERS RATTAN.

At the Magistracy this morning, Inspector Kent charged an Indian and a Chinese boy with having stolen a bicycle and two Chinese boys with having unlawfully received and sold it.

After hearing the explanations offered by the four accused who each attempted to lay the blame on the others, Magistrate Orme decided, as the defendants were all schoolboys under the age of 16, not to send them to jail. After reading them a severe lecture, he ordered the first and second defendants to receive 8 strokes of the rattan each, and third and fourth defendants five strokes each.

On the application of Inspector Kent an order was made for the bicycle to be returned to a Tsimshatsui shop, from which it had been stolen, and the money found on the defendants to be given to the master of the Caine Road shop to which the machine had been sold.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE HONGKONG LAND RECLAMATION CO., LTD.

NOTICE.

DURING my absence and until further notice Mr. LESLIE SOLBE GREENHILL, has been appointed acting Secretary.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
 MOWBRAY S. NORTHCOTE,
 Secretary,
 Hongkong, March 18, 1921.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.

NOTICE.

DURING my absence and until further notice Mr. LESLIE SOLBE GREENHILL, has been appointed acting Secretary.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
 MOWBRAY S. NORTHCOTE,
 Secretary,
 Hongkong, March 18, 1921.

TO-DAY'S NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

ZETLAND LODGE, No. 523, E.C.

AN EXTRAORDINARY LODGE OF EMERGENCY will be held on MONDAY, March 21st, 1921, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely, in celebration of the SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY of Freemasonry in Hongkong and South China.

All Brethren, resident and/or-visiting are invited to attend.
 Brethren who intend being present are requested to notify the Secretary.

By Command of the W. M.
 A collection on behalf of the Funds of the Hongkong and South China Masonic Benevolence Fund Corporation will be made.
 Hongkong, March 18, 1921.

WANTED.

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PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on

MONDAY, March 21, 1921, at 11 a.m.

at No. 11 Godown of the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd., Kennedy Town.

500 Tons Groundnut Oil.

Terms: Cash on delivery.

LAMBERT BROS., Auctioneers.

Hongkong, March 18, 1921.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER DEFENCE CORPS.

ORDERS BY LIEUT-COLONEL L. G. BIRD, D.S.O. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMANDANT.

1. Parades.

The Corps will parade on Monday, 21st March, at 5.30 p.m. at Headquarters. Attendance Strong as possible.

2. Drill Order with Helmets and Shorts EXCEPT.

1. Scottish Company who will wear Balmoral Caps and Kilts without Khaki Aprons.

2. Mounted Infantry Section wear Brooches.

Machine Gun Company carry Revolvers and Pouches.

Cadet Company form up in rear of Corps.

Other parades during week ending 26th March, 1921, will be held in accordance with Programme of Work.

3. Engineer Company.

Parade at Belchers at 5.30 p.m. on Thursday, 31st instant, for practice on Defence Electric Light.

3. Mounted Infantry Section.

Parade at Polo Ground, Causeway Bay, on Wednesday, 23rd instant, at 5.30 p.m.

G. F. E. RAPSON, Lt.-Major, Adjutant, H. K. V. D. Corps. Hongkong, March 18, 1921.

TO SECRETARIES OF CLUBS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

ALL preliminary notices of forthcoming meetings, lectures and entertainments, sent for insertion in the news columns of the China Mail, are charged for at the rate of \$1 each, (as announced in May and June of last year) providing that they do not occupy more than four lines. In future if this space is exceeded they will be placed in the advertising columns at the prevailing rates.

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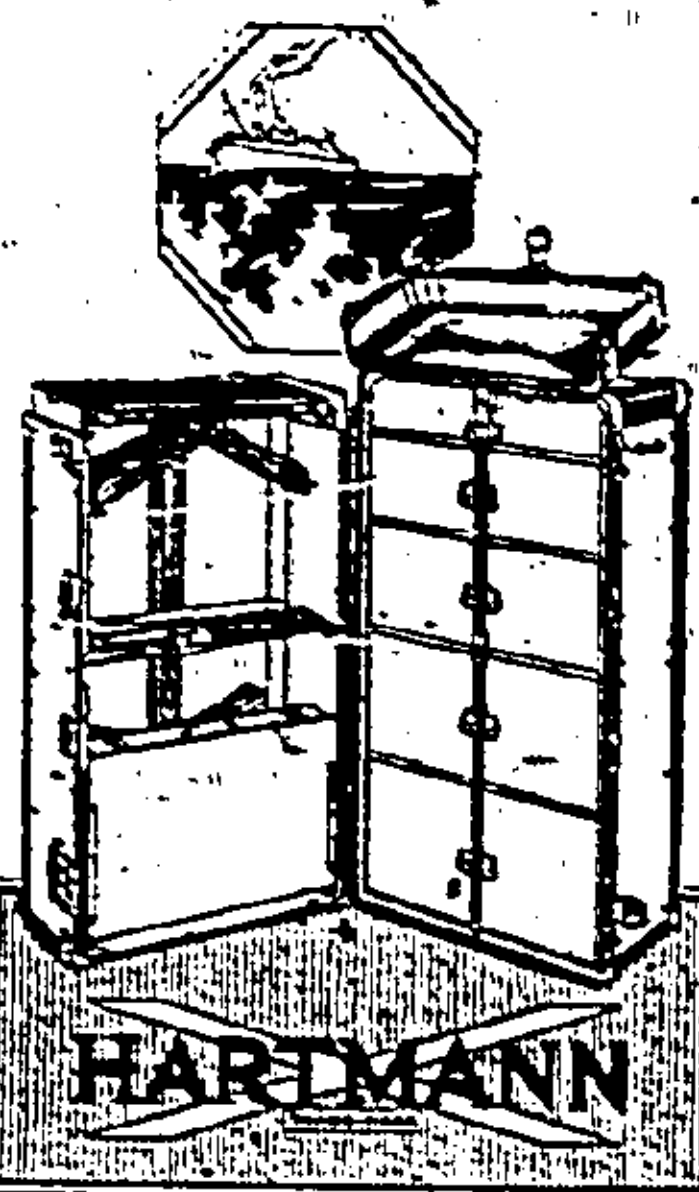
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NOTICES.

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"PENNSYLVANIA VACUUM CUP"

"FISKE"

"KELLY SPRINGFIELD"

"LEE."

METER OF MANKIND.

AN INFERNAL MACHINE.

HUMAN EMOTIONS RECORDED.

Tennyson was wont to express with vehemence his objection to "being ripped up like a pig." The method of revelation which he feared was biographical. But the science of publicity has made much progress since his time, and we now hear of a process of exploring the secrets of our souls compared with which the indiscretions of friends, correspondents, and selected biographers are (to quote TENNYSON himself) "as moonlight unto sunlight and as water unto wine." Dr. AUGUSTUS WALLER, director of the physiological laboratory of the University of London, has been making a public demonstration of "an instrument which records human emotions." This infernal machine seems, and we can well believe it, to have impressed his audience profoundly. In a preliminary explanation, Dr. Waller laid down that in ordinary folk the "emotive response" is found in the palm of the hand and the sole of the foot. That great truth will accept without any scientific evidence. Impudent ears have been boxed and offending bodies kicked for many a long year. But the bearings of the observation lie in the application of it. Dr. WALLER attached a hand of a member of his audience to a galvanometer, and showed, by means of a spot of light on a screen, a record of the victim's emotions. Such is the profundity of modern science, so delicate are modern scientific methods, that, with the galvanometer and the screen and the spot of light, it is now proved that running a pin into a man or burning him with a match produces an "emotive response." Again, we have no difficulty in taking Dr. WALLER's word for it. What we should like to know is whether the manipulation of a spot of light on a screen is found as soothing a relief to the feelings as the more ordinary form of "emotive response" to a burning of the fingers. We are, however, assured that it becomes quite an absorbing passion to sit quietly in an arm-chair and watch the response of the instrument to one's thought and temper. Such are the simple joys of the scientific mind. It may be doubted whether the rest of us are sufficiently intellectual to be satisfied therewith. To sit in an easy chair attached to a galvanometer seems to us a pastime hardly likely to supersede golf. It must needs be a solitary amusement. Whatever pleasure may be derived from contemplating a visible record of the state of our souls, it is not a pleasure we should choose to share. Even to Dr. WALLER we would rather not confide the emotions which are roused in us by the prospect of being harnessed to his invention. But we derive some relief from the thought that at present it has its limitations. It measures quantity, not quality. Our feelings at burning our finger are to the meter of emotions just the same as our feelings at contemplating an

DIVORCE PROBLEMS.

AN AMERICAN REMEDY.

FAMILY COURTS SUGGESTED.

Recent proceedings in the Divorce Court must have caused some uneasiness amongst those who hope to obtain relief from it. The innocent and the ill-used, in particular, must feel that litigation is more than ever distasteful now that they are made familiar with the possibility that after all the ordeal of publicity has been endured a jury may condemn them to face it again. The suggestion of a more excellent way comes from Chicago. Mr. Justice BROTHERS of that city is retiring from the Bench because his health has broken down under the stress of judicial business, most of it, we infer, composed of matrimonial disputes. He is convinced that there is one remedy, and but one, for a state of things which imperils not only the health of the judiciary but the welfare of his country. His prescription is for "each family to form an arbitration court before which husbands and wives can bring their matrimonial troubles." The telegrams lay stress upon the novelty of this proposal. It is, in fact, only new to us because of its extreme antiquity. Primitive society is full of the jurisdiction of the family. A very little acquaintance with savages would have informed the surprised commentators that, whatever else may be said against Mr. Justice BROTHERS, he is no innovator. Further studies in the social life of humanity would have brought to light the fact that family councils are also found in civilised societies. Many of the divorce cases which have come before Mr. Justice BROTHERS must have been previously tried by members of the family. Many potential divorce cases which might have come before him were, we have no doubt, settled by the sage influence of family arbiters. But it is necessary to add that some, and perhaps his most difficult, cases were in all probability embittered and complicated by family interference. The jurisdiction of the elder statesmen and women of a family is, in fact, already established, but its validity and its usefulness must always be limited by the character of the people concerned. If the world were made up of reasonable and good-tempered people it is no doubt true that we could arrange all our affairs without the assistance of Mr. Justice BROTHERS. But while less agreeable qualities are to be found in human nature it will remain necessary to call upon judges who can give their decisions the sanction of force. We do not know whether he proposes to invest a family court with that. There can be little doubt that the innocent and the culpable in his divorce cases would alike regard such a prospect with horror. What man could endure the compulsion of a mother-in-law?

income-tax demand. So the spiritual tragedies of mankind still elude the grasp of science.—Daily Telegraph.

FLOOR OF THE SEA.

CORAL BUILT TROPICS.

SUNLIME SPECTACLE DESCRIBED.

To the marvels of the coral built tropics and the mysteries of unknown Papua Captain Frank Hurley, the famous Antarctic photographer, has gone for new copy and studies. On the sea, beneath the sea, on the earth, and above the earth, he will be busy for some months. His pen and camera will be employed on behalf of The New Sydney, and from Thursday Island he sent the following article:

I am seated on a boulder by the summit of a green hill looking down on to a conglomeration of rusty tin roofs and rows of tree tops that mark streets, and out over a placid expanse of blue-green sea. The sun glares down on my shadeless visage, and I envy those aboard the three score pearling luggers that ride in the cool breeze off shore. A thin strip of beach, fringed with palms, runs off to the jetty where the Talyan is discharging. Prince of Wales Island lies over to the right and Horns Island just across the water. The tide is swirling in, and rips and races, marking shallows and channels, changing blue-green to muddy tints. It is all delightful—a media between Austral and tropic scenery, quite unlike an Australian port in all but the dwellings.

Climbing down from the hill, one can race through the barbed trip wires—there must be fortification hereabouts—scurrying emaciated goat herds, and into the "City of Thursday Island." A couple of hundred paces more and you are into Main-street, avenue with coconut palms and mangoes.

The man who invented corrugated iron ought to be galvanised, for no one has done more to debase Australian architecture and to add to our domestic discomfort. On either side, rows of typical Australian galvanised-walled, corrugated-roofed dwellings—"colonial ovens"—slowly cook the inhabitants with the sun's fire.

The inhabitants seem gathered from the cardinal points of the compass, but the aliens from the north appear to have been attracted to Thursday Island as flings to a lodestone; in fact, one wonders whether this is Chinatown or a Japanese village. The shops of the whites can be counted on the fingers of one hand. The shops and houses of the Asiatics number on the entire fingers of the white community.

A HUMAN MENAGERIE.

There is also a considerable sprinkling of natives from the Torres Straits Islands, and a heavy downpour of unclassifiable breeds, from pale-faced aboriginals to almond-eyed Malays, octoroons, and baboons. White Australia! Why this is a human menagerie!

Thursday Island is the litchkey to the front door of North Australia. But as it lies almost beyond the horizon, only the Income Tax Department seems aware of its existence. Even this department, with its meticulous spy-glasses, has lost its way here. The Japanese who skipper the majority of luggers engaged in pearling and beach-comber fisheries earn up to £300 annually. They exist on "the hair of a coconut." Any thing beyond these delicacies is purchased from the Jap shops. The balance of earnings is sent to Japan, free from all income tax. These men, free from their livelihood in Australian waters, but by the interpretation of an absurd clause, the department has not the temerity to exact these obligations.

Anchored amongst the pearling luggers off shore were the two missionary vessels "Herald" and "Otilu," skippered by the Revs. John Done and W. H. Macfarlane. The latter was returning with his family to Darney Island. In quest of pictures and adventure I signed on as a passenger in the "Herald." Our crews, selected from the natives of Torres Straits, were a fine, hefty lot of fellows, and those who did not reach an inch over 6ft. made up for it in girth. At early morn the two vessels set sail for a hundred-mile race to Darney, the "Herald" bearing an hour's handicap. With a freshening breeze and a cloudy sky we reeled a merry eddy knots. Navigation in these waters is extremely intricate, and depends considerably on one's local experience. I was amazed at the remarkable skill and science with which "the boy" handled our craft, working tiller and sails to every puff, veer, and vantage.

Through calm seas, flecked with "white-tops," down long streets of light blue calm, with green streaked shallows and reefs on either side, by hunchbacked islets, and sandy spits topped with palms and mangrove, through an ocean of mystery and wonder, with bellying sails and spurt-

ing bows, we decided to press on through the night. The sun dipped into the sea behind us, leaving our wake with a trail of gold and flame, then night came on—stars, bright and lustrous, gleaming like a million lamps, and Venus, queen of the heavens, throwing her silver sceptre across the sea.

LIKE AN INVERTED SKY.

At 9 p.m. we came up with the Otilu—a formless silhouette riding through the night. Then over those starlit waters went forth a cheer—a native "Otilu, ahoy!"—the strangest I have ever heard; and so, on we pressed alone, with phosphorescent wavelets rippling from our bows, and down in the depths scintillating, myriads and specks, gliding like a star-strewn sky inverted.

Capricious is the weather in these latitudes, for a great cloud bank swept down, with driving rain squalls, obscuring all distant observation. Owing to the innumerable and sporadic nature of the reefs, it was impossible to maintain anything like a true compass course. The midnight watch was just being changed when a horrible grinding jar threw us on to the deck. Up rose the vessel's bow, and it needed no further investigation to convince us that we had driven on to a reef. Mr. Done's presence of mind saved us from being dismasted. A few sharp orders to the crew, and down rattled the sails, and anchors were run out fore and aft.

Every endeavour was made to keel the ship off, but the coral gripped our copper like a rasp, and, with falling tide, we lay helplessly buffeted on the reef.

Throughout the night the seas battered the vessel on the sharp coral, so that westwood by the lifeboat, expecting the sides to be stayed through momentarily. Sunrise saw our stranded vessel lying on her bilges—a helpless derelict on a coral reef.

Anxiously we watched the tropical storms raging around the horizon, fearful lest they should bear down and destroy our little vessel. Whilst waiting for the incoming tide, Mr. Done and I rowed over the shallow reef to a nearby sand pit, where turtle tracks had been observed. By proceeding round with a spear we located the nest, and scooping away the sand unearthed 150 turtle eggs. It might have been a dump of golf balls. What a breakfast we made. Last time I was shipwrecked it was penguins, and now turtle eggs. But thank Heaven the weather was warm here.

A MARVELOUS GARDEN OF THE SEA.

Rowing back to the "Herald," we passed over the most wonderful sight in the world—a submerged coral reef. The floor of the sea lay carpeted with a marvellous garden—so fantastic and unreal that one seemed to be peering through a glass sea into another world. Rounded knobs and knolls several feet in diameter, cauliflower heads, fungoid, and mushroom-shaped growths, a forest of stag antlers, of trees, shrubs, and a million forms, lay packed together in a wild, chaotic undergrowth.

No will but that of the Great Master Artist, who fashions all things, could conceive such a galaxy of extravagant colour. Here the spectrum had rioted. Primary colours flashed, mingled with flashings of faintest hue. Neither order nor rule controlled the colour scheme of the profound camouflage. It was as if a million seeds of strange plants had been thrown together, and had sprung into plants blossoming in utter confusion.

Drifting on a waveless sea, and peering through a pane—three fathoms of crystal water—the sublime spectacle lay glorified. From fairy grottoes shoals of tiny fish flashed out into the sunshine, but of such colour and markings that no man might describe. There were turquoise shoals and emerald gleams of scarlet; others with scales that glinted gold and silver, some gaudily banded, streaked and designed mathematically. Each microscopically perfect, and all living gems. A dorsal fin skims the sea, the smallest fishes dart to cover—a white flash and a shark passes beneath.

The tide running in swiftly, we returned to the "Herald," now rising to an even keel from her coral couch. Two boys dived over the side to survey the extent of damage. All the false keel had been torn away, and a large expanse of copper ripped off. Soundings taken in the ship's well indicated only a small leak.

With the flood tide we managed to float the vessel off, and lost no time setting all sail for Darney. At evening we came up with the islands, and directed by bonfires hove-to and dropped anchor off the beach. The natives had arranged a great welcome, and as we pushed off in the dingy numbers swam out to pilot us in. In the shallows a horde had gathered chanting a native welcome—a babel of

"SAFETY FIRST."

NOVEL PARIS MEASURE.

SENSATIONAL FILM PREPARED.

So many accidents have occurred in Paris recently that the authorities have been compelled to make some attempt to render walking in the principal thoroughfares less dangerous than at present. M. Rauc, Prefect of Police, has considered that both drivers of vehicles of all sorts and foot passengers need to be educated to avoid mishaps, and the better to do this he has prepared what is said to be a sensational film which he imagines will convey a useful lesson. This film will figure in the programmes at the principal picture theatres, and so much interest has been taken in it that requests have been made from cinema houses abroad.

It is a simple story, but contains the necessary human interest that the Prefect of Police has imagined. A wealthy manufacturer desires a husband for his daughter, who, naturally, is very pretty. He makes the announcement in his salon that he will give her hand to the suitor who takes her through Paris first in a motor-car and then on foot without meeting with an accident or infringing the traffic rules. Suitors decide to accept the test. There is, however, one exception. A young man thinks it strange that the girl should consent to marry the best chauffeur and the best walker. As the manufacturer replies to this objection a shadow passes over the screen. He tells how his son returned from the war wounded, and with the Legion of Honour and other decorations. One day he was knocked down by a motor-car and killed. The emotion produced by this story is accentuated when he adds that his wife died of sorrow. Therefore, he goes on to say, he attaches great importance to traffic problems, and has decided to sacrifice his daughter on the altar of security for Parisians.

This explanation convinces the suitors, and all determine to try their luck. In the room there is a young man who is silent. He is a servant who has not had time to qualify for a driving licence. The heroine is evidently well disposed towards him, for she promises to initiate him into the mysteries of driving a motor-car. This part of the story is evidently too much for one commentator on the film, for he is led to remark: "And it is the Prefect of Police who has written that! The rest of the story is soon told." The young servant becomes a most skilful driver, and fulfils the test without an accident of any kind. And of course he marries the wealthy manufacturer's daughter.

"WET" LINER PUZZLE.

A U.S. RULING.

MAY AFFECT OUR SHIPS.

No vessel of any nationality may enter a United States port or come within the three-mile limit with intoxicating liquor on board.

This, in substance, is the decision given by the Department of Justice under the Prohibition Enforcement laws. The department states specifically that no ship transporting liquor from one foreign port to another may touch at a U.S. port. The Customs authorities express the opinion that if strictly construed it will prevent the entry of any passenger liner having a bar, even though its contents be sealed.

It is not stated from what quarter the application for this ruling came, but it will certainly be a source of considerable comfort to American shipping interests. The fact that all United States passenger ships are "dry" is always considered to be one of the principal handicaps of the U.S. Mercantile Marine in the fight for supremacy.

Considerable doubt at the same time exists in shipping circles whether the strictest construction will be placed on the new ruling.

Elsewhere it is quoted as an instance of the fact that the Prohibition laws cannot be enforced without giving rise to impossible complications abroad.

voices and cries, a hubbub of confusion of dusky figures, lit strangely by dancing firelight. A pleasant grinding, and we had touched the beach. Above the starlight danced through waving palms. We breathed an atmosphere sweet scented with tropical flowers—and this was my first impression of Darney.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

Customers are requested to apply for our Revised Price List which came into force on 1st March, 1921.

THE DAIRY FARM, ICE & COLD STORAGE Co., Ltd.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

ANNUAL ATHLETIC SPORTS.

FULL RESULTS.

Following is a full list of results of the Hongkong District Schools' Athletic Sports meeting, which was held on the Queen's College recreation ground, at Causeway Bay, yesterday:

100 Yards Flat Race (Group I).—1, Mok Tai-cheuk, Time: 17secs.; 2, Li Kai-yeung; 3, Kwan Sheung-chi. (Group II).—1, Li King-chong, Time: 16 1/10secs.; 2, Lau Ping-ka; 3, Cheung. (Group III).—1, Lau Sek-kau, Time: 18 1/10secs.; 2, Chan Hau-leung; 3, Ho Wing-fat. (Group IV).—1, Wu King-tak, Time: 17 1/10secs.; 2, Chi Ping-hing; 3, Wu Hing-kin. (Group V).—1, Tse Shu-ming, Time: 18secs.; 2, Mok Siu-fong; 3, Chan Shun-chung. (Group VI).—1, Li Hing-chau, Time: 19secs.; 2, Tan Sik-siu; 3, So Chun-foon.

High Jump (Group I).—1, Kwan Sheung-chi, Height: 5ft.; 2, Li Chung-kai; 3, Mok Tai-cheuk. (Group II).—1, Wong Man-tung, Height: 4ft. 7in.; 2, Cheung Kit-sang; 3, Cheung Chong. (Group III).—1, Chan Siu-tong, Height: 4ft. 3in.; 2, Tsang Ki-chong; 3, Ho Yung-sing. (Group IV).—1, Wu King-tak, Height: 4ft. 3in.; 2, Chu Ping-hing; 3, Ko Wa-him. (Group V).—1, Li Kam-chuen, Height: 4ft. 1in.; 2, Chan Shun-chung; 3, Tse Shu-ming. Long Jump (Group I).—1, Mok Tai-cheuk; 2, Yau Wing-kwai; 3, Chan Singi. (Group II).—1, Li Man-shing; 2, Chan Tak-kwan; 3, Cheung Kit-sang. (Group III).—1, Chung Kwok-ping; 2, Liu Chi-kai; 3, Chan Ki-sum. (Group IV).—1, Wu King-tak; 2, Cheung King-ho; 3, Chu Ping-hin. (Group V).—1, Chan Shun-chung; 2, Tse Shu-ming; 3, Luk Chung-chan.

300 Yards Flat (Group I).—1, Mok Tai-cheuk; 2, Kwan Sheung-chi; 3, Kwok Wing-fat. (Group II).—1, Fong Man-kwong; 2, Li Man-shing; 3, Ko Yau-sing. (Group III).—1, Lau Shut-kan; 2, Chung Kwok-ping; 3, Kong Ki-in.

200 Yards Flat (Group IV).—1, Wu King-tak; 2, Ko Wa-him; 3, Cheng Lai-chuen. (Group V).—1, Tse Shu-ming; 2, Chan Shun-chung; 3, Ma Ming-ngar. (Group VI).—1, Li Hing-chau; 2, Ho Yuk-kun; 3, Chan U-shing.

120 Yards Hurdles (Group I).—1, Mok Tai-cheuk; 2, Lo Cheung-kwong; 3, Pang Wai-muen. (Group II).—1, Cheung Cheong; 2, Lau Ping-ki; 3, Tsoi Pak-shu. (Group III).—1, Chung Kwok-ping; 2, Ho Wing-fat; 3, Lau Shut-kan.

300 Yards Flat (for Indian boys only).—1, D. Mohamed; 3, N. B. Kitchell; 3, M. Hassan.

Tug-of-War.—1, Saiyungpun School; 2, Ellis Kadoorie School.

Team Race (Senior).—1, Wanchai School; 2, Saiyungpun School; 3, Ellis Kadoorie School.

Team Race (Junior).—1, Wanchai School; 2, Ellis Kadoorie School; 3, Saiyungpun School.

Sir Ellis Kadoorie Challenge Shield.—Won by Saiyungpun School. Runners-up, Wanchai School.

Championship Gold Medal.—Won by Mok Tai Cheuk (Ellis Kadoorie School) with 10 points out of a possible 15.

At the conclusion Mrs. E. A. Irving, wife of the Hon. Director of Education, distributed the prizes, and was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers in a silver vase as a memento of the occasion.

BRITAIN JUSTIFIED.

OUTSPOKEN STATEMENT.

U.S. GENERAL'S REBUTT TO CRITICS.

"I'm so more ashamed to stand up here for Britain that I am to do so for the United States. I thank God that in a crisis like the one we had, there was no bickering between the English-speaking people. Of course, General Pershing gave them five divisions, but it saved the Allied line."

These words were spoken before the Congressional Committee investigating the American war expenditure by General Charles Daves, the Chicago banker, who during the war was in charge of the Supply Services of the American Army in Europe.

He made this protest after a number of questions had been put to him relative to the alleged refusal of the British Government to supply ships unless the United States put five divisions in the line.

Anti-British elements persisting in this questioning, General Daves, who is noted for his vigorous, down-right utterance, replied with considerable heat that Great Britain did the right thing to win the war.

General Pershing said that General Daves was always willing to do anything for the common good, and instanced the question of unified command. "Great Britain came to it," he said, "after four years of jealousy, but not till threatened with extinction did she do what she should have done in the first year of the war."

The morning after the final agreement was reached, he concluded, "to appoint Marshal Foch, Colonel Repington published it in the London Morning Post. They let him off with a fine, but he ought to have been shot."

"PRINCESS OF THE WILDS."

SERVANT GIRL'S HOAX.

THREE MONTHS' DECEPTION.

Found crying in a Munich street dressed in Oriental clothing and apparently unable to speak any intelligible language, a girl was for three months the subject of much study and discussion among Munich savants. They decided that her language was that of some mysterious tribe in Central Asia, that she was the daughter of the "Chief," and therefore a "Princess"; that she had probably been smuggled to Bavaria from Constantinople by Allied officers and deserted.

A home was found for her, but she could not be induced to learn any language. A few days ago she disappeared, and romantic accounts were told about her having been kidnapped by hooded Asiatics, emissaries from her "royal father." The police traced her to the house of a friend of her mistress. This man had induced her to live with him after discovering that she spoke German as well as he did. She was, it appears, formerly a servant girl in the neighbouring village.

A Chinese arrested on Praya East yesterday charged this morning before Magistrate Orme, with the unlawful possession of 722 rounds of ammunition, pleaded ignorance of local regulations. Inspector Kent, of No. 2 Police Station, said that the accused threw two packets of ammunition into the harbour before he was arrested. The Magistrate imposed a fine of \$200, or in default, four months' hard labour. The ammunition was confiscated.

VALSPAR BRONZE BOTTOM PAINT

A PERFECT ANTI-FOULING COMPOUND.

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